

Record

JOURNAL OF THE MISSISSIPPI BAPTIST CONVENTION

#BXNFMY *****
#0000 2910 9048#
005 DTN *****
SOUTHERN BAPT HISTORICAL SOC 51048 P2
901 COMMERCE ST STE 401
NASHVILLE TN 37203-3620

PUBLISHED SINCE 1877

SEPTEMBER 4, 2003

VOL. 127

No. 30

Senior Adult Rally draws record crowd

By Tony Martin
Associate Editor

"This rally has been in the works for two years," said Glenn Shows, consultant in the Discipleship and Family Ministry (DFM) department of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board. For those attending the State Senior Adult Rally on August 28 at Ridgecrest Church, Madison, the work paid off handsomely.

According to Shows, the event drew a record 944 attendees from 54 different locales around the state, representing 67 churches. The DFM department sponsors a state rally every other year, with regional rallies occurring the open years.

The event opened with a rally featuring George Fields of Louisville, Ky. Fields bills himself as "America's Musical Humorist." He is a graduate and former football player for Mississippi College; a graduate of Southern Seminary in Louisville, Ky.; and has been entertaining and speaking for almost 30 years. "I speak for a fee and eat for free," Fields quipped.

With a blend of down-home humor and music, Fields held the group captivated. He involved the attendees in singing heartily and shucking their inhibitions. Fields told the group that they were "adults with seniority, which sounds better than 'senior adult.'"

After a refreshment break hosted by the Mississippi Baptist Foundation, the attendees had a choice of three different conferences: Fun Time with George, a continuation of his earlier rally time; Love Languages of God, offered by Frank Gunn, retired pastor of First Church, Biloxi; and a leadership conference, Socials that Sizzle for Seniors, led by Myrna Gregory of Brandon, former senior adult coordinator and recreation specialist for Lifeway.



LEADING THE LEADERS — Myrna Gregory (right) former senior adult coordinator and recreation specialist for Lifeway Christian Resources in Nashville, shares ideas for inreach and outreach with senior adult leaders from around the state at the State Senior Adult Rally August 28 at Ridgecrest Church, Madison. (BR photo by Tony Martin)

"George Fields was a real calling card," Shows observed. "We wanted to have an economical entrance fee (one dollar), with three basic conferences. We had several folks tell us that they'd never done anything like this conference."

Shows said that he had specific goals to meet at this conference. "First, we wanted to bring in someone who really appeals to senior adults — in this case, George Fields. We wanted someone who is enlightening, funny, but can bring across a message that appeals to a lot of different people."

"Secondly, we wanted to offer a discipleship training conference, and this

year it was the Love Languages of God. Thirdly, we wanted to offer a leadership conference for those who needed it, those who lead out in their churches. We wanted that to give fresh, new ideas for ministry. We tried to have three good programs for those there."

The 2003 State Senior Adult Rally was funded by gifts to the Mississippi Cooperative Program.

For more information senior on adult ministries and DFM programs, contact Shows at P.O. Box 530, Jackson, MS, 39205-0530. Telephone: (601) 292-3373 or toll-free outside Jackson (800) 748-1651, ext. 373. E-mail: gshows@mbcb.org.

Church Library Conference set for October 3-4

JACKSON, Miss. (Special)—The 32nd Annual Church Library Ministry (CLM) Conference will be held October 3-4, at First Church, Jackson. The focus for 2003-04 is "Church Libraries...Vision 20-20," working to impact the world for Christ.

The conference begins on October 3 with registration at 9 a.m., and will conclude that day's activities at 8 p.m. The conference reconvenes at 8 a.m. on October 4 and adjourns at noon.

Morlee Maynard, national leader for church library ministry at LifeWay Christian Resources, will be the guest speaker for the October 3 dinner. Maynard will also be leading two conferences: Basic Administration, and Building an Effective Ministry Team. Other conference leaders include:

- Eva Nell Hunter, library director for Central Church in Decatur, Alabama, and national specialist for church library ministry with LifeWay Christian Resources in Nashville.
- Sandra Fitts, library director for First Church, Corinth, and president of the State Church Library Officer's Association for 2002-03.
- Hope Ferguson, library director for First Church in Natchitoches, Louisiana.
- Stephen Gateley, with the E.C. Dargan Research Library at LifeWay Christian Resources in Nashville.
- Mary Broussard, library director for Denham Springs Church in Denham Springs, Louisiana.
- Suzanne Burton, senior accounts representative for

Book Systems in Huntsville, Alabama.

• Tim Nicholas, assistant professor of communication at Mississippi College in Clinton.

Conference tracks for the new worker, experienced worker, technical process worker, automation, historian, and photography are being offered this year. A special feature of this conference will be a large exhibit of books and other items from LifeWay Christian Store. Conference texts can be purchased at the LifeWay display.

Registration fee is \$20.00 per person, which includes lunch, snacks, conference materials, and the October 3 dinner. Reservations are required. Checks should be made payable to the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board (MBCB) and

mailed to Communication Services/CML, P.O. Box 530, Jackson, MS 39205-0530.

Attendees are responsible for their own lodging. For a list of suggested motels or for more information on the conference, contact MBCB Communications Services at the above address. Telephone: (601) 292-3378 or toll free outside Jackson (800) 748-1651, ext. 378. E-mail: jchen@mbcb.org.

When making motel reservations, be sure to ask for the rate for the Church Library Ministry Conference or the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board rate. A recent issue of CLM News listed Holiday Inn Express Hotel & Suites as one of the conference hotels, but that hotel is fully booked at this time.

WHAT'S IN THE RECORD

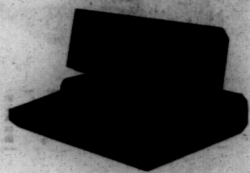
Blackaby's lead laws

Directions

Baptist Children's Village

Sunday School lessons

EDITOR'S NOTEBOOK



**William H.
Perkins Jr.**
Editor

EDITOR
William H. Perkins Jr.

ASSOCIATE EDITOR
Tony Martin

EDITORIAL ASSOCIATE
Anne Ranson

LAYOUT/DESIGN
Lennie N. Young

ADVERTISING
Dana Richardson

CIRCULATION MANAGER
Brenda Quattlebaum

BOOKKEEPER
Betty Anne Bailey

EDITOR EMERITUS
Don McGregor

Baptist Record Advisory Committee:
Al Green Jr., Bay St. Louis
Rick Henson, Brandon
Ken Hester, Pontotoc
Beverly Pyron, Natchez
Billy Watkins, Madison
Michael Weeks, Olive Branch
Dana Richardson, secretary

Postmaster: Send changes of address to The BAPTIST RECORD, P.O. Box 530, Jackson, MS 39205-0530. Send news, communication, and address changes to The Editor, BAPTIST RECORD, P.O. Box 530, Jackson, MS 39205-0530 (601) 968-3800. Fax: (601) 292-3330. E-mail: baptistrecord@mbcb.org

VOLUME 127 NUMBER 30
(ISSN-0005-5778)

Published weekly except weeks of July 4 and Christmas by the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board, 515 Mississippi Street, Jackson, MS 39201. Subscription \$9.35 per year payable in advance. Economy plans available for cooperating Mississippi churches. Periodicals postage paid at Jackson, MS. Member, Association of State Baptist Papers. Deadlines: News items — one calendar week prior to requested publication date. Advertising — two calendar weeks prior to requested publication date.

Mississippi: the plentiful harvest

J. Courtney Selvy, associational missions director for Panola County in Batesville, was impressed by "T" at the beginning of the level one discipleship class for 27 Regimented Inmate Discipline participants at the Mississippi State Penitentiary at Parchman. T's attentiveness and eagerness to learn the Bible verses was apparent. Selvy considered him to be a new believer simply from his actions. Then during week three, Selvy reviewed the three aspects of salvation and presented the Gospel. He encouraged the young men who had never trusted Christ as their personal Lord and Savior to ask for forgiveness and invite Christ to be their Savior. Selvy could not help but notice the intensity on T's face. During the prayer, T was heard above the others asking Jesus to forgive him and inviting Jesus into his heart. Five weeks later, Selvy had the privilege of baptizing this new believer.

Many such true stories are occurring every year in Mississippi — a field ripe unto harvest (Matthew 9:37-38) where more than 57% of the present-day populace don't attend church anywhere. In our own comfortable churches where we are surrounded each Sunday by people who look like us, dress like us, and think like us, we tend to forget that there's a whole big state out there in desperate need of the Good News of Jesus Christ.

That's where Mississippi Baptists come into the big picture. When Jesus charged us with the Great Commission (Matthew 28:18-20), He meant for us to reach out to our next-door neighbors as well as to the heathens on other continents. He meant for us to take Jesus to our schoolmates and co-workers, the people we see every day, as well as the to the people on the other side of the globe we will never meet.

Mississippi Baptists do an outstanding job at both endeavors. One of the perennial leaders in giving to overseas evangelism through the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering for International Missions, Mississippi Baptists also have a tremendous impact in the U.S. through the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering for North

American Missions. Those giving totals don't include support for hunger relief activities and many other programs around the country and the world.

Equally important are gifts to the Margaret Lackey State Mission Offering, which is designed to provide annual funding for a host of programs and activities crucial to our goal of helping to bring Mississippi and the world to Jesus. For the first time in the 100-year history of the state mission offering, Mississippi Baptists in 2002 surpassed one million dollars in gifts. That says a lot about Mississippi Baptists, and a lot about our passion to lead our fellow citizens to Jesus.

Thanks to generous and sacrificial gifts to the Margaret Lackey State Mission Offering, Selvy was able to fund the discipleship course that leads hardened inmates to Christ. Jackson Association in Pascagoula was able to fund Country Fest 2003 on April 11, where country music artist Marty Raybon performed and gave his personal testimony. A total of 32 people accepted Christ in that one night.

Thanks to gifts to the state missions offering, babies slated for slaughter in this state's abortion mills are being born to mothers who accepted Jesus in a local Baptist crisis pregnancy center. Hispanic laborers who

can't speak a word of English are being reached in their first language through church plants sensitive to their cultural needs. People who have lost everything they owned in floods and tornadoes are being touched by the volunteers who comprise the Mississippi Baptist Disaster Relief Unit.

Because of the Margaret Lackey State Mission Offering, young mothers are learning life skills through the Christian Women's Job Corps. Certified trainers are provided for literacy missions such as English as a Second Language, Adult Reading and Writing, and Tutoring Children and Youth. Inmates in the custody of the state's sprawling 16-prison corrections system are hearing about a Man who can change them forever and fulfill their every inner need.

All of these state missions and much more are accomplished through the tireless work of Mississippi Baptist volunteers, the unflagging support of their local churches and associations, and sacrificial giving to the Margaret Lackey State Mission Offering.

In a state with so many spiritually-needy people, it's going to take all we can do to win Mississippi to Jesus. During this special time of emphasis for state missions, may we each pause to ponder that challenge and pray about our role in it.

GUEST OPINION:

The role of authorities

By Henry Blackaby
Henry Blackaby Ministries, Atlanta



... render therefore to all their
due ... honor to whom honor [is
due]...

Romans 13:7

We are living in a very dangerous time. In some ways we are living close to a time of "anarchy." More and more evidence is surfacing that we are not giving honor to whom God says honor is due. All too often it is our leaders, secular and religious, who are modeling this form of rejecting those God has commanded us to honor.

God has placed everyone in a position of authority. The Apostle Paul had just stated: "... let every soul be subject to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and the authorities that exist are appointed by God..." (Romans 13:1). Paul also added that existing authorities are "... God's ministers..." (Romans 13:4,6).

Those in authority today are under great pressures, especially in the nature and magnitude of the decisions they have to make. Their decisions often affect us all, even to succeeding generations. I sense they feel the awful weight of their decisions.

They also are seeking the finest, most mature and tested advisers to assist them. Rarely do leaders today make decisions alone, even when the final decision is theirs. They believe that "... in the presence of many counselors there is safety..." (Proverbs 11:14), but too often today when a leader makes difficult decisions, those who themselves want to be the leader, or who feel their suggestions are not being considered or followed, are very critical, even demeaning, of the existing leaders. Paul warns those who "resist the authorities" that have been placed over them. He said "... those who resist authority resist the ordinance of God, and those

who resist will bring judgment on themselves..." (Romans 13:2).

Any nation that fosters or encourages resistance to authority is putting their nation under God's judgment, and if this resistance is perpetuated as "politically justified" (in secular society or in religious circles), this will foster a "rebellious spirit" on all levels of society, including our schools, universities, and our homes. So what are we to do?

• Model before others, especially our family, thoughtful examination of decisions made, but guard against the appearance of "rebellion."

• Pray for our leaders that they will seek, receive, and obey God's guidance for their

authority, and seek to be transparent "ministers of God."

• Strive to be godly leaders ourselves in any sphere of influence God may grant us.

• Be content to live in the area of spiritual authority God has entrusted to us.

May God grant us the courage to express our views, even when they conflict with others, and to have the grace not to break fellowship with our brothers merely because we differ. God will be honored, and others encouraged and helped.

Editor's note: Another timely viewpoint on this important issue will be published in the next issue of The Baptist Record. Blackaby's commentary is provided courtesy of Baptist Press.

Blackaby is the author of the Experiencing God curriculum. An Experiencing God Together Regional Conference in Atlanta, at First Church of Jonesboro (Ga.), will be held on Jan. 15-17. The conference will include a special leadership session for pastors, staff and their spouses. For more information, go to www.henryblackaby.com or www.fbcjonesboro.com.

NAMB commissions missionaries in Kan.

WICHITA, Kan. (BP) — Missionaries were honored as heroes Aug. 24 during one of the biggest events ever to accompany a North American Mission Board (NAMB) commissioning service. A total of 75 new missionaries were commissioned during the celebration at Wichita's Century II Convention Center — and

from churches and ministries throughout Kansas and NAMB. And like sports heroes at an autograph event, missionaries also were available at tables before the service to sign program books and have their photos taken with children.

Also sharing words of encouragement was Wichita-area resident and former mis-

was the fulfillment of a vision that began a year earlier.

"Our goal was to make this the largest Southern Baptist event in the history of the Kansas-Nebraska Convention of Southern Baptists, and I think we're going to come very close to that," he said, noting that total attendance approached 4,000. "We have a heart to make Southern Baptists a powerful influence in Kansas."

Among the missionaries being commissioned were directors of missions, collegiate evangelists, community ministry specialists, volunteer coordinators, state convention staff members and church planters.

Barry Odom, who is planting a church in the Seattle, Wash., area, shared how he met his father only after he was in his late 20s — and it was then that he realized that God might have something special in store for him. His father and grandfather were military heroes, one in World War II and the other in Vietnam.

"What they did mattered, and they made a difference," he said. He then began to realize the difference he could make as a missionary church planter. He told how he eventually decided to stay within the Southern Baptist Convention because of the strong supportive environment.

"I began to see the power of what can happen when people do unite, do come together and do cooperate," Odom said. "It's led us to be a part of the movement on the east side of Seattle, which we believe is ground zero for impacting the world."

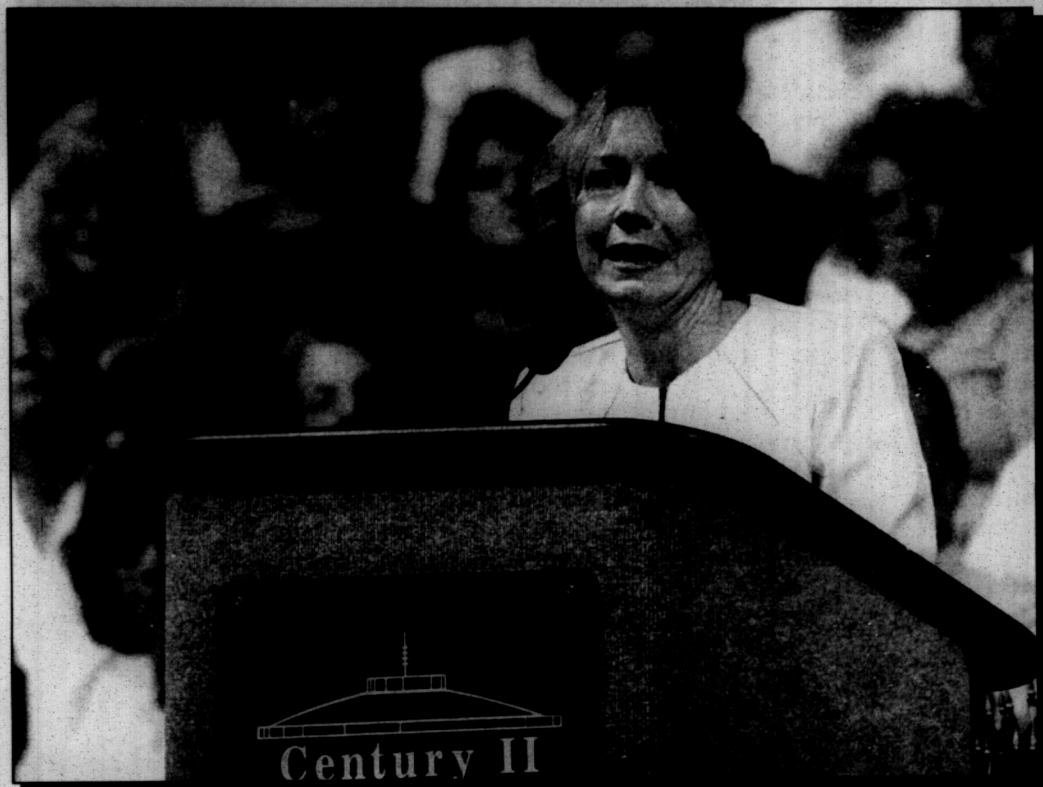
Odom also told of how his father's mother, when he met

her for the first time, touched his face and said, "I want you to know that I prayed for you every day of your life, and I didn't even know your name."

"It all began to come into focus," Odom said. "So I'm excited to be here tonight and partner with all of you, and hoping that you'll see the same destiny and significance."

Gracia Burnham, a member of an independent Bible church who served with New Tribes Mission, shared a letter written to her by a fellow missionary shortly after her husband's death in June of last year.

Martin Burnham made headlines nationally as a hero for his perseverance in the midst of hardship and subsequently as a martyr for the faith. The Burnham's missionary friend wrote to Gracia



MISSIONARY CAPTIVE — Missionary Gracia Burnham, who spent a year as a captive of Muslim extremists in the Philippines, shared words of encouragement during an Aug. 24 missionary commissioning service in Wichita, Kan. Burnham served with a non-southern Baptist missionary group. (BP photo by James Dotson)

many laypeople were commissioned as well as they responded to God's call on their lives where they live and work.

The event, sponsored by the Heart of Kansas Southern Baptist Association, also included a youth concert, evangelistic puppet and magic shows for children, and a large-scale missions fair that included booths

missionary Gracia Burnham, who spent a year as a captive of Muslim extremists in the Philippines with her husband, Martin, before a rescue effort resulted in his death and her freedom just over a year ago.

Terry Fox, pastor of Emmanuel Church in Wichita and current NAMB trustee chairman, said the experience

Record

PUBLISHED SINCE 1877

SEPTEMBER 4, 2003

VOL. 127

No. 30

about how Martin, a missionary pilot, had been largely responsible for leading one Filipino airstrip worker to faith in Christ in 1993 — and the long-term impact that had had on their local congregation.

"I love this letter, and it's not because it makes Martin into some kind of hero," Gracia said. "It's because after Martin's life was over I got to see a glimpse of how our ministry made a difference in lives."

To the missionaries beginning their ministries, she said, "I must admit I'm kind of jealous of you. You know, God often uses the most unlikely and foolish things to bring about His plan," she said. "Might it be that guy who was standing in the middle of your airstrip getting in your way, that unlovely guy with a bad temper, that you would be able to lead to Jesus because you were doing what God called you to do?"

Looking back

10 years ago

Avery T. Willis, a national leader in discipleship training and former missionary, is recommended by Jerry Rankin, president of the Foreign Mission Board, as new overseas vice president. Willis is best known for playing a major role in developing the MasterLife discipleship program.

20 years ago

Damage to Texas Baptist churches, homes, and businesses from Hurricane Alicia is more extensive than originally thought. The Mississippi Baptist Disaster Relief Unit works five days in Bayton, Texas, serving an estimated 12,404 meals.

50 years ago

The Baptist Record editor A. L. Goodrich writes, "A recent Associated Press dispatch states that wholesale prices as measured by the government reached their highest level of the year last month. We call this to the attention of churches as they prepare their budgets. In other words, the pastors' salaries should go up in proportion."

JBS material released

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (BP) — Two of LifeWay Christian Resources' most prominent leaders have paired up to write the 2004 January Bible Study (JBS) to stir churches toward Kingdom-focused ministry. The Church: Anticipating the Kingdom's Appearance, is the title of the study by James T. Draper Jr., LifeWay's president, and Gene Mims, vice president of the church resources division. Using 1 and 2 Timothy, the study probes several issues facing the church today in view of a Kingdom focus. Issues covered in the JBS material include:

- The nature and importance of the Gospel
- The qualifications for pastoral/deacon leadership
- The role of women in a local church
- The nature and authority of Scripture
- The ministry of a local church in a decaying culture
- The nature of pastoral authority
- Elder/deacon rule in churches

Some churches have strayed and implemented practices that are questionable, Mims said — issues that should be addressed biblically. "The Bible is explicit in its principles that can be applied to any current church issue, and it remains the only authority we have for addressing these issues successfully," he said. 1 and 2 Timothy, written to a young pastor who needed encouragement, instruction and guidance, are primers on leadership and servanthood. The intent of the two New Testament letters, Draper said, is to heighten Timothy's position in the eyes of the church so they would look to him for spiritual leadership. "The pastor needs to know how he should lead, and the people need to know how to follow and relate to the pastor," Draper said.



YOU CAN RESPOND RIGHT NOW!

Simply share the following
prayer with God in
your own words:

1. Lord, I admit that I need you.
(I have sinned.)
2. I want forgiveness for my
sins and freedom from eternal
death.
(I repent.)
3. I believe Jesus died and rose
from the grave to forgive my
sins and to restore my
relationship with you.
(I believe in Jesus.)
4. By faith, I invite Jesus Christ
into my life. From this time
on, I want to live in a loving
relationship with him.
(I receive Christ as my
Savior and Lord.)

But as many as received him, to
them he gave the right to become
children of God, even to those
who believe in his name
(John 1:12).

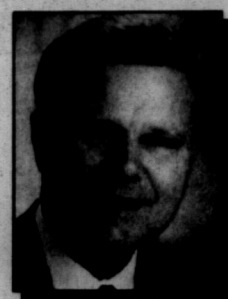
If you make a decision for
Jesus Christ today, contact
a local Baptist church for
spiritual guidance.

SCHOOL TEACHERS

School is back in session and it provides a great opportunity for us to think about how significant school teachers are in the life of our children. While there are other great influences that touch their lives, school teachers are on the cutting edge of influence day after day. They need our prayer support and encouragement. Regardless of what form they may take — public school teacher, private school teacher, or home school teacher — it is no easy task to help children move along to reach their full potential.

Our school teachers are required to be more highly educated than most of the population and then offered a job that pays on the lower end of the scale for professionals. They sign up and show up to spend more waking hours with our children than anyone else and to leave an imprint on each one of the children they teach. Is every school teacher gifted, innovative, creative, caring, and helpful? Probably not! No more than all parents are like that, but that does not make them bad people nor does it mean that they are not trying their best to help a child develop intellectually.

There they are locked in a classroom with your child from before eight until about three instructing, influencing, encouraging, and maybe sometimes correcting and possibly even demeaning the children. I know that you as a parent or grandparent are concerned, but how often have you paused to pray, to



Directions

Jim Futral, executive director-treasurer
Mississippi Baptist Convention Board

hold them up to the Lord, and ask Him to guide them, strengthen them, and enable them to connect and communicate with the children?

I am afraid that most of us find it so easy to quickly and hurtfully raise criticism against our school teachers. The scores are not as high as they ought to be. Their patience is not as long as it ought to be. Their appreciation for the giftedness of our children is not as deep as it should be. They are not as interested as they should be in issues in our children's lives outside the classroom. The quality of their teaching skills is not as honed as we think they ought to be and that is only the beginning of the list.

I wonder what would happen if parents not only started taking more interest in the operation of the school, but if they actually began to be involved in holding the teacher up to the Lord and praying for wisdom, grace, and strength from above for that person. Could God make a difference in the life of a teacher who is making a difference in your child's life? Absolutely!

Since I went to school for a long time, I can tell you from a

personal standpoint that I have met some not so good teachers. Some of them were borderline bad, but I must confess that I never had one who was as bad a teacher as I was a student. I realize now and sometimes realized then that they were making a greater effort than I was. Don't be mistaken — I met and was touched by some of the most gifted teachers to be found anywhere. They were good teachers, some of them borderline great teachers, and a few went above the line. They influenced me, affected me, taught me, encouraged me, challenged me, and enabled me.

I can also tell you that even in this present day when school teaching is such a difficult calling there are many fine Christian school teachers and administrators who are living out what they consider to be a "God designed ministry for them" to help and bless children. Many of them are making a difference and you and I need to be a part of the team to make a difference for them.

School teaching is hard work. It begins early in the day long before the kids ever arrive and it goes on long past the time that they leave the class-

room in the afternoon. It takes years of training only to get a job with relatively low pay so that you can work with children who rarely if ever say, "Thank you for doing a great job." The toughest part of the whole deal is that all they have to work with is the quality of kid that we send them from our homes. Strange isn't it that we expect them to do something at the school that we have never been able to do in the home setting. We want them to make them learn, make them behave, make them obey, and insist that they be disciplined.

I would encourage you again before you are too critical of the teacher to realize that you have the child longer than they do. Let's make a pact to encourage those significant frontline shapers of our children, pray for them daily, and encourage them at every opportunity. To all of you teachers out there who are starting the new year with a fresh set of kids and a fresh view of the difference you can make, just realize you are making a difference and we appreciate it. God bless you and keep up the great work.

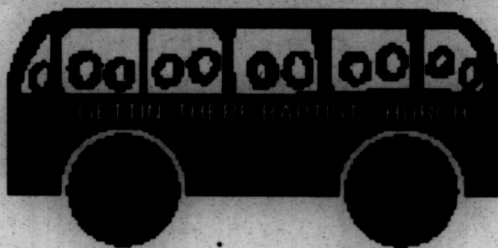


MISSISSIPPI
BAPTISTS

Southeastern Bus Sales

Mississippi's In-State source for Buses and Vans

- Eldorado
- Starcraft
- Turtle Top
- Used Buses



1-800-423-9826

Business done the "Riteway" for over 16 years!
5483 I-55 South Jackson, MS 39272

GREAT NATION INVESTMENT CORP.

invites your indication of interest to:

FIRST MORTGAGE CHURCH BONDS

EARN UP TO: 8.5%

These bonds may be placed in a self-directed IRA.
Transfers and rollovers accepted, in most cases.

Interest Payable Quarterly

This announcement is neither an offer to sell nor a solicitation of an offer to buy. All offers are made by prospectus only.

GREAT NATION INVESTMENT CORP.

5408-A Bell • Amarillo TX 79109
Member NASD, SIPC

For more complete information about bond issues, obtain a prospectus which describes all of the particulars of the undertaking. Read it carefully before you invest or send money. All bonds are offered at face value, subject to availability.

CALL OR RETURN THIS TO:

Martin Northern 800-468-3007
PO Box 1302 501-316-3100
Benton, AR 72018-1302 Fax 501-316-3110

Please send me information on the First Mortgage Church Bonds currently being offered by Great Nation Investment Corp.

ORGANIST, CASTLEWOODS Baptist Church. Send a letter of interest or resume to 175 Stonecastle Drive, Brandon, MS 39047, via email or fax. Fax number (601) 992-2623. For information call (601) 992-9977.

NORTHWEST BAPTIST ASSOCIATION IN DeSoto and Tate counties is now taking applications and resumes for Association Missions Director. Send all information, including accurate references to Mr. Dan Freeman, 2604 Lavern Road, Nesbit, MS 38651.

CENTRAL BAPTIST CHURCH IN Meridian is looking for an organist. Interested persons should contact Dr. Chisholm by phone at (601) 693-4288 or email danny@cbcmdn.org.

PART-TIME YOUTH MINISTRY EXISTS at Summerland Baptist Church. Housing is

provided. Send resumes to pastor Tim Lee, Summerland Baptist Church, 80 SCR 28-4, Taylorsville, MS 39168. For more information call (601) 729-2505.

LINWOOD BAPTIST CHURCH, Neshoba Co., seeks part-time music director for adult and children's choirs. Please send resume and references to John K. Cumberland, chairman, music committee, 12021 Road 325, Union, MS 39365 or call (601) 650-1552.

MOSELLE MEMORIAL BAPTIST Church is currently seeking a part-time minister of youth. If you feel God leading you in the direction of youth ministry and would like a great opportunity to work with a growing church, please send your resume to: MMBC minister of youth committee, P.O. Box 220, Moselle, MS 39459 or call (601) 582-9428.

SEBREN'S SIDING, JACKSON, MISS. Christian owned home improvements, vinyl siding, windows, metal roofs, patio covers, screen/glass rooms. (601) 992-2092 or (800) 453-2994. Don & Rita Sebren, owners.

FINALLY AFFORDABLE HEALTH Insurance for the self employed. Call (662) 568-3482. *Underwritten by MEGA Life & Health Insurance Company. M/COMB0008.

BEACHSIDE VACATION CONDOS. ALL sizes. www.GulfshoresCondos.com, fall special, 2 night weekend \$120.00. Four weeknights \$160.00. Efficiency unit (2 adults, 2 kids), good thru 10/31/03. (205) 554-1524.

NORRIS BOOKBINDING COMPANY, Inc., old Bibles rebound. Also church bulletins and hymnals. For more information call (662) 453-7424 or fax us at (662) 455-6743. Located at 107 North Stone Avenue, Greenwood, MS 38930.

BRANSON, MISSOURI CONDO. walk-in, smoke-free, no pets. Sleeps six. Two bedroom, two bath. Special rates - dinner tickets for anniversary, birthday. Groups welcome, (662) 746-4632.

CUSTOM STAINED GLASS WINDOWS for churches and homes. Stained Glassworks, Inc. (800) 605-2970.

LEARN CHALK ART MINISTRY BY video. For more information write: P.O. Box 1206, Fairfield, TX 75840. Email larsin@pflash.com.

TOMBSTONE CLEANING, CONTACT

Richard Sims with R & R Steam Cleaning. Phone (601) 892-1622, cell phone (601) 506-6017.

HEIDELBURG STAINED GLASS, Meridian. Design, fabrication, repair. Fax illustrations to (601) 483-7958 or call (800) 368-2705.

LEESVILLE - FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH: Full-time youth and recreation minister. Send resumes with photo to: Youth Pastor Search Committee, First Baptist Church of Leesville, P.O. Box 1568, 1400 Nolan Trace, Leesville, LA 71446; or email fbcleesville@wnonline.net.

AMERICA'S FASTEST GROWING Christian long distance company. 4.9/minute, no monthly fees. No codes or restrictions, 6 second billing. 250,000 happy customers. Toll-free (866) 587-8346 or www.covenantphoneservice.com.

HOPPER GLASS STUDIO, CUSTOM church windows, reworking and repair, Columbus/Jackson, (877) 477-1899.

CHURCH PEW UPHOLSTERY, free estimates. Davis Upholstery, Quitman, Miss., phone (601) 776-6617.

GATLINBURG GETAWAY, TWO/BR, 2 bath, full kitchen. Walking distance to parkway. \$65/night. Call for information at (251) 666-2175.

PIANO, GRAND KNABE, 6' 1", ebony. PDS disc system with record, modulate, orchestra. Superb action and tone. Absolutely new condition. A \$17,000 value at \$14,500. Call Mike at (601) 267-8480, Negotiable.

What I tell you in the darkness, speak in the light; and what you hear whispered in your ear, proclaim upon the

HOUSE TOPS.

Matthew 10:27 NAS

September 4, 2003

HouseTops is a Baptist Record supplement produced by the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board's Communication Services.



Mississippi Baptist Conference of the Deaf
Camp Garaywa
October 3-5, 2003
Old Fashioned Deaf Revival
Scott Tankersly, Deaf Evangelist
Mark Mitchum, Sign Music Evangelist
Larry Barnett, Voice Interpreter
Everyone is Welcome

For more info, contact the MBCB Church Planting at 1-800-748-1651 or 601-292-3361.

GA Mother/Daughter Overnight
October 17-18, 2003 • Camp Garaywa
(for girls ages 5 to 105!)



Cost: \$33 per person
(includes meals, lodging, insurance and program fees)
The registration deadline is October 3, 2003.
For info, contact the WMU Department at 1-800-748-1651 or 601-968-3800 in Jackson.

STATE HANDBELL LEADERSHIP SEMINAR

SEPTEMBER 12-13, 2003
Daniel Memorial Baptist Church
Jackson, Miss.



CLINICIAN:
R.E. Thompson
handbell specialist
Leawood Baptist Church
Memphis

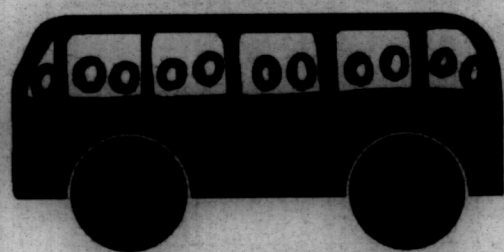
For more information, contact the
MBCB Church Music Department at
1-800-748-1651 or in Jackson,
601-292-3267.

**Baptist Women's
World Day of Prayer**
November 3, 2003



A time of prayer for Baptist women of all cultures, ethnic backgrounds and races. This year's program highlights several types of prayer and ways of praying as participants pray for needs around the world.

You may download the program material from the Web: www.bwanet.org, or you may contact Mississippi WMU for program materials at 1-800-748-1751 or 601-292-3319.



Annual Missions Celebration Bus Tour

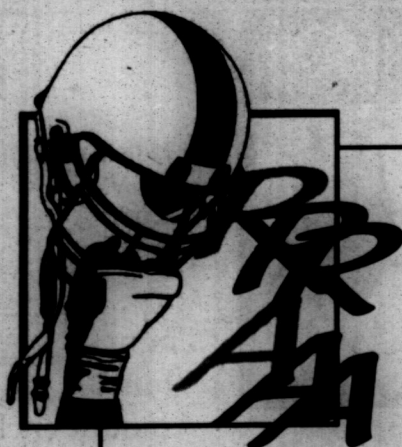
October 3-4

Departing from Camp Garaywa at 7 a.m. for the Annual Missions Celebration at Harrisburg BC, Tupelo

Registration form available at www.mbc.org, or call the Mississippi WMU at 1-800-748-1651, ext. 317 or 601-292-3317

COST*
Single: \$107
Double: \$70
Triple: \$62
Quad: \$54

* Cost includes one night's lodging at the Hampton Inn, continental breakfast & bus transportation. Thursday night accommodations are available in the Camp Garaywa guest house for an additional \$14.



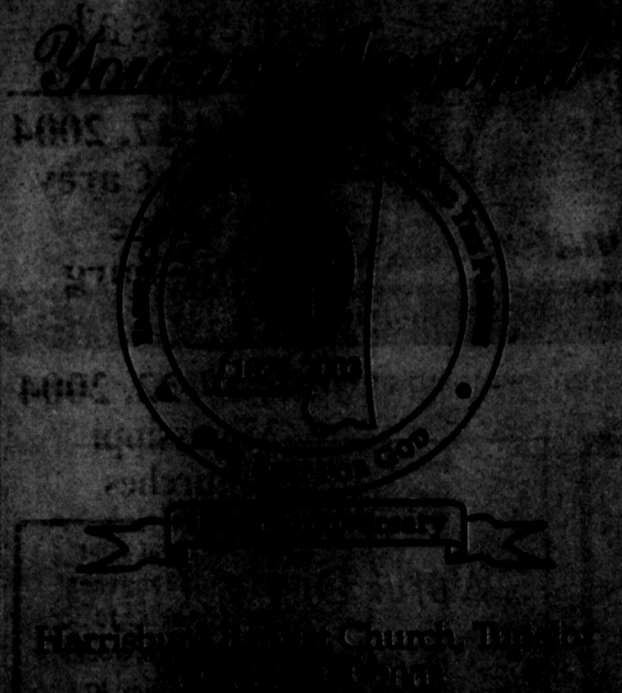
September 20, 2003

Mississippi College
Grades 1-12
10 a.m.-5 p.m.
\$4 per person
Bring your own sack lunch and drink.

REGISTRATION DEADLINE:
SEPTEMBER 17

For more info, contact:
Men's Ministry Department
1-800-748-1651 or 601-292-3335

Mississippi College
vs
Howard Payne University



125th Celebration



Mississippi Woman's
Missionary Union



Book-Link

A VOLUNTEER MINISTRY OF THE NATIONAL FELLOWSHIP OF BAPTIST EDUCATORS
AND THE MISSISSIPPI BAPTIST CONVENTION BOARD ASSISTING THE
INTERNATIONAL MISSION BOARD OF THE SOUTHERN BAPTIST CONVENTION

Who Can Help?
RAs • GAs • WMU
Men's Ministry Groups
Individuals

What Can You Do?
Pray • Donate • Give
Volunteer

Our mission is: to collect, pack, and ship Christian study tools and Bibles to Baptist mission-
aries, theological students, and national pastors in developing countries.

For further information: Book-Link, c/o Men's Ministry Department, PO Box 530, Jackson MS
39205-0530 or call 601-968-3800

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 2003

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH, COLUMBUS

8:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. (For directions call 662-328-3915)

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 4, 2003

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH, NATCHEZ

8:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. (For directions call 601-442-1464)

Henry Lyons, Humorous Speaker

Former Alabama DT Director/Senior Adults
Alabama Senior Adult Consultant

Cost: \$10 (includes lunch if registered by October 27)
\$5 payable at the door (lunch will not be provided)

LifeWay Christian Store displays, goodie bags
Antebellum Home tour after 2:30 p.m.

For more info contact: Glenn Shows, 601-292-3373 or
1-800-748-1651, MBCB Discipleship & Family Ministry Dept.



REGISTRATION FORM

Attending Lab at: ☐ FBC, Columbus ☐ FBC, Natchez

Name

Address

City State Zip

Phone

Church

Amount enclosed:

Please make checks payable to:

Mississippi Baptist Convention Board

Mail to:

Mississippi Baptist Convention Board

Discipleship and Family Ministry

Glenn Shows

P.O. Box 530

Jackson, MS 39205

For more information contact: Glenn Shows, 601-292-3373
or 1-800-748-1651

Mississippi Baptist Ministers' Wives Conference

October 27, 2003
First Baptist Church, Jackson
[Fifth Floor]

1:15 to 4:30 p.m.

OUR GUEST SPEAKER
Sarah Maddox

For more info, contact the Pastor/Leadership Development
at 1-800-748-1651, ext. 308 or ext. 305 or e-mail:
mbuckles@mbcb.org or kmcdonnell@mbcb.org



2004 Mississippi Baptist
All-State Youth Choir
and Orchestra

Audition Information

1-800-748-1651, ext. 266 or
cwtaylor@mbcb.org
Web site: www.mbcb.org

auditions

Audition dates for the 2004 MBASYC&O
(Open to 9th - 12th graders)

Saturday, Sept. 20, 2004 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. William Carey College, Hattiesburg
Tuesday, Sept. 30, 2004 4 - 7 p.m. First Baptist Church, Summit
Tuesday, Oct. 7, 2004 4 - 8 p.m. First Baptist Church, Meridian
Tuesday, Oct. 14, 2004 4 - 7 p.m. First Baptist Church, Winona
Saturday, Oct. 25, 2004 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. Mississippi College, Clinton
Thursday, Nov. 13, 2004 4 - 8 p.m. Fairview BC, Columbus
Saturday, Nov. 15, 2004 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. North Oxford BC, Oxford

(NOTE: ALL instrumentalists will be expected to audition vocally.)

Instrumental auditions will include:

- A prepared piece
- Scales
- Sight reading
- Technique and tune

rehearsal camp

June 14-17, 2004
William Carey
College
Hattiesburg

tour

June 17-22, 2004
Mississippi
Churches

Sponsored by the
Church Music Department

JANUARY BIBLE STUDY PREVIEW CLINIC

I & II TIMOTHY

The Church: Anticipating the Kingdom's Appearing

Sept. 23	Blue Mountain College, Blue Mountain BSU, Delta State, Cleveland Gulf Coast Assn. Office, Gulfport	Carl White Dean Register Les Hughes
Sept. 24	BSU, NW MS Comm. College, Senatobia Garaywa, Clinton William Carey College, Hattiesburg	Carl White Dean Register Les Hughes
Sept. 25	Central Hills, Kosciusko Lauderdale Assn. Office, Meridian Pike Assn. Office, McComb	Carl White Les Hughes Dean Register

Registration begins at 9 a.m.
Conference 9:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.
Lunch will be provided by MBCB

For more info, contact the Sunday School Department at
1-800-748-1651 or 601-292-3292

Pastor Staff

RECOGNITION
&
APPRECIATION

Recognition and affirmation are critically important
to each of us. How easy it is to give appreciation, and
how meaningful it is to be the recipient of affirmation.
And yet, how often we take our spiritual leaders for
granted and forget to say, "thank you."

Ministers deserve and need affirmation from the
people they serve. Members of the congregation need a
special occasion to say, "We love you and appreciate
what you are doing as our spiritual leader." Pastor/Staff
Recognition is designed to give the church an opportu-
nity to say, "Thank you for your labor of love."

Contact the Pastor/Leadership Development for a
brochure and assistance in ways to affirm your pastor
and staff: 1-800-748-1651 or 601-292-3305.

State Literacy Missions Workshop

November 13-15
Camp Garaywa, Clinton

Choose from:

- English as a Second Language (New)
- English as a Second Language (Experienced)
- Adult Reading and Writing
- Tutoring Children and Youth
- Chronological Bible Storying

Registration Deadline, October 24th



Pray this day for...

September 5-18, 2003

Prayer Ministry Office • P.O. Box 530 • Jackson, MS 39205-0530 • Phone 601-292-3304 • Mississippi PrayerLine 1-800-787-7729 (PRAY)

"Paul and Barnabas set out on the first missionary journey to the accompaniment of prayer and fasting (Acts 13:2-4). Ever since, the missionary cause has advanced upon its knees."

EFFECTIVE PRAYER by J. Oswald Sanders

For: (1) Discipleship Training Launch Day (D&FM Emphasis); (2) Pray for peace in Cote d'Ivoire in order that IMB personnel can return to the Koyaka people to proclaim the riches of God's grace and love.

Pray for missionaries Michael and Lindy Howard, who live in Lusaka, Zambia. Their daughter returned to Texas on Aug. 14th from Zambia where she spent the summer. Pray for M's (missionary kids) all over the world who left their parents for boarding schools and college.

For: (1) Bible Drill Clinics: FBC, Picayune, 7-8:30 p.m. (D&FM); (2) Bible Drill Clinics, FBC, Senatobia, 7-8:30 p.m. (D&FM); (3) Please pray today for President Megawati Sukarnoputri of Indonesia (Southeast Asia).

There is a growing fuel shortage in southern Iraq. As a result, hospitals, cold storage for medicines, and vaccination programs are in danger. Pray that the shortage will be alleviated and that necessary fuel will be available. Pray that the Lord will use the suffering of the Iraqi people to turn their hearts to Himself.

For: (1) Bible Drill Clinics, West McComb BC, McComb, 7-8:30 p.m. (D&FM); (2) Bible Drill Clinics, FBC, Saltillo, 7-8:30 p.m. (D&FM); (3) Professional Certification for Ministry Assistants and Ministry Office SkillShops, Camp Garaywa, Clinton, 8 a.m., 9th-4 p.m., 11th (P/LD).

Pray that those recommitting their life to Christ in Ghana during an outreach program in July would continue to grow in the faith. Ask the Lord to give them the courage to stand strong for Him in the midst of many temptations and trials.

Pray for Chinese and Tibetan officials at all levels that they may fear God and do what is best for the people of Tibet, especially by continuing improvements in health care and education and welcoming foreign cooperation.

For: (1) See you at the Pole, School Flag Poles, 7:30-8 a.m. (Evan); (2) Please pray today for Chief Executive Edmund Ho Hau-Wah of Macao (SE China coast); (3) Pray that the "Jesus" film will become available in the Piaroa language. About 85% of them do not understand Spanish.

For: (1) Bible Drill Clinics, Forest BC, Forest, 7-8:30 p.m. (D&FM); (2) Bible Drill Clinics, FBC, Louisville, 7-8:30 p.m. (D&FM); (3) Pray that God would arrange circumstances so that M., a Muslim-background believer, can have time off from his work to travel to the countryside and disciple I. and others.

Pray for 10.8 million Southern Pashtun living in southern Afghanistan and southwestern Pakistan to have an opportunity to hear, understand and believe the Good News about Jesus Christ. They have no Bible in their language. There are only a few known believers in Christ living among them.

Crystal Hollon is a collegiate minister at Bowling Green University, Toledo, Ohio. Pray that God will raise up student leaders who want to reach their campus for Christ, that Crystal would be guided by the Holy Spirit, and be shown favor with the school's administration.

For: (1) State Handbell Leadership Seminar, Daniel Memorial BC, Jackson, 6:30 p.m., 12th-noon, 13th (CM); (2) Richard Sale is a law enforcement chaplain for the Forensic Police Dept., S.C. Law Enforcement Division, highway patrol, and FBI. Pray for him as he ministers to these people.

For the first time, the "Jesus" film was shown to an unreached people who historically were violently opposed to the Gospel. The son of the Imam saw it and was overwhelmed that Jesus could forgive sins! He began taking the film team to other villages. Pray that the Word of God will bear much fruit among these people.

For: (1) Super Saturday, Developing a Spiritually Transformed Sunday School, Country Woods BC, Jackson (SS); (2) Pray for the rural farmers on Jeju Island, South Korea, who hear the gospel. Pray that God's Spirit will move in their hearts to bring salvation and that Bible study groups will increase.



BAPTIST HYMNALS SUPPLIED FOR AFRICAN SEMINARY!

Praise the Lord! The financial goal for supplying 5,000 Baptist Hymnals (1991 edition) for choirs of African Baptist churches has been accomplished! Three thousand are already at the Nigerian Baptist Seminary. The remaining 2,000 will be shipped soon. I recently returned from another teaching assignment at our Nigerian seminary. The music missionary, national music faculty and ministers of music voice their deep appreciation for these hymnals.

I express my sincere thanks to all of you who were involved in giving to this ministry. Finances were given by hundreds of individuals, small choirs, large choirs, smaller membership churches, large churches, Sunday School classes, WMU round tables, many retired missionaries to Africa, Girls in Action (which included many individual letters), senior adult clubs, retired ministers of music and retired missionaries other than Africa. These gifts came from 15 states and one foreign country.

Jimmy McCaleb
Church Music Department

PLEASE NOTE

Church members may send a package of cards altogether; cards do not have to be sent individually to Stewardship.

1-93
MISS CAITLYN A. BRASWELL
Parents: Larry & Alicia, General Evangelism

4-81
MISS LUCY M. GRAVES
Parents: Edgar & Marilyn
General Evangelism

4-94
MISS ALICIA MARTIN
Parents: William & Cynthia, Strategy

5-85
MISS BETHANY G. FORTENBERRY
Parents: Robert & Margaret
General Evangelism

8-91
MR. JACOB S. LIGHTSEY
Parents: Timothy & Rebecca
Literature Distribution

11-84
MISS INGRID R. GAMEZ
Parents: Tris & Martha
Community Outreach

13-84
MR. PAUL W. HARRISON
Parents: Frank & Phoebe
Church Planting

14-83
MISS EVA N. CARLISLE
Parents: Jason & Susan
Church Growth Consultants

15-96
MISS MARISSA J. BLEDSOE
Parents: David & Laurie, General Evangelism

16-86
MR. NATHANIEL D. CARLISLE
Parents: Jason & Susan, Church Growth Consultants

19-98
MR. TAYLOR E. HODGINS
Parents: Raymond & Cynthia
Sports Evangelism

26-98
MR. FRANK C. MULLINS
Parents: Frank & Lynn, Church Planting

27-00
MISS JADI A. FOSTER
Parents: Michael & Miranda Foster, Strategy

28-88
MISS LINDSEY J. PURL
Parents: John & Amy, Business Management

Child's name
and parent's name
MIRCB Stewardship Dept.
P.O. Box 530
Jackson MS 39205

JUST FOR THE RECORD

A Men's Conference will be held at Cason Church, Monroe County, September 20 from 8:30 a.m.-noon. Guest speakers will be Ronnie Barefield, pastor of Unity Church, Ripley, and Bill Tapp, Shiloh Church, Corinth. Come and see what God has prepared for you on this day. Refreshments will be served.

Bill Renick has pastored LeMoyné Blvd. Church, Biloxi, for 30 years. All are welcome to honor Renick and

his wife, Joette, on September 7 at 6 p.m. A time of fellowship will follow the service.

Gwen Williams, known as Ms. Chocolate, will be the featured speaker for the Area II WMU Celebration at Calvary Church, Tupelo, on September 6 at 10 a.m. Williams, an author, motivational speaker, folklorist, and worship leader, has developed From the Heart Ministries, Inc.

A women's conference, Beloved in Christ, will be held September 20 from 9 a.m.-3 p.m. at Hollandale Church, Hollandale. Registration and breakfast will begin at 8:30 a.m. Charlie Ray is the guest speaker. Tickets at \$12.50 and the deadline is September 10. Lunch will be served. For more information, call (662) 827-2201.



HOMEcomings & REVIVALS

East Philadelphia: Sept. 14-17; Sunday, 11 a.m. and 7 p.m.; Mon.-Wed., noon, lunch, and 7 p.m.; Truman Scarborough, North Central Association, evangelist; Randy Cuchens, First, Newton, music; for more information, contact (601) 656-4797 or epbc@netalpha.net.

Oak Grove, Yazoo: Sept. 7-10; Sunday, 9 a.m., 10 a.m., lunch will be served, an afternoon service will follow; Mon.-Wed., 7:30 p.m.; Cliff Pace, evangelist; Darby Combs, pastor.

Alexander Memorial, Washington: Sept. 14; opening ceremonies, 10:30 a.m.; a covered dish lunch and fellowship will follow; all past and present members are invited to share memories and sing; Rick Griffin, pastor.

Pilgrims Rest, Batesville: Sept. 7; worship, 11 a.m.; dinner on the grounds; James West, former pastor, speaking; Vessels of Mercy, concert; Wes Sherman, pastor.

Good Hope, Batesville: Oct. 5-8; Sunday, 11 a.m., potluck luncheon, and 7 p.m.; Sunday-Wed., Jimmy Porter, MCB, evangelist; David C. Jones, Tula, Oxford, music; Gerald H. Walker, pastor.

Hurricane Creek, Sandy Hook: Sept. 7; Sunday School, 10 a.m.; worship, 10:45 a.m.; lunch will follow; all are welcome; Curtis

Roland, pastor; for more information, call (601) 736-3544 or (601) 736-9583.

Mount Carmel, Smith: Sept. 14-17; Sunday, 11 a.m.; lunch and fellowship will follow; afternoon worship, 1 p.m.; Mon.-Wed., 7 p.m.; Danny Dickerson, Wilkerson Memorial, Raleigh, evangelist; Mike and Nancy Jones, music; James Maddox, pastor.

Bigbee, Monroe: Sept. 21; Saved By Grace, music, 10:30 a.m.; worship, 11 a.m.; lunch at noon; Saved By Grace, 1:30 p.m.; Truman Carter, speaking; Tommy Whaley, pastor.

Siloam, West Point: Oct. 12; worship, 10:45 a.m.; lunch will follow; J. B. Miller, former pastor, preaching; Stan Proctor, pastor.

Salem, Tylertown: Sept. 14-17; Sunday, 11 a.m., a covered dish lunch will be served at noon, and 6:30 p.m.; Mon.-Wed., 7 p.m.; Thomas Wicker, preaching; Rob Schepers, music; Mark Wicker, pastor.

Mt. Nelson, Neshoba: Sept. 7; worship, 10:45 a.m.; dinner on the grounds will follow; Mark Mayo, speaking; Mack Alford, pastor.

Calvary, Pascagoula: Sept. 14-17; Sunday, 11 a.m., lunch will follow, and 6 p.m.; Mon.-Thurs., noon and 7 p.m.; Harold Carman, evangelist; Chris Turner, First Natchez, music; Johnny Beaver, pastor.

STATE CHANGES



Russell

Center Hill Church, Hamilton, has called Scott Russell as Associate Pastor and Minister of Students.

Russell graduated from University of Georgia and Southwestern Seminary. Terry J. Edwards is pastor.

Cross Roads Church, Pelahatchie, called John W. Vaughn as pastor on July 1. Vaughn is a graduate of

Mississippi State University and New Orleans Seminary. Prior to coming to Cross Roads, Vaughn and his wife, Kathy, served with the International Mission Board as missionaries to Brazil. He has also pastored Pleasant Hill Church, New Hebron, and Arkadelphia Church, Bailey.



Vaughn

Paul G. Stephenson, former director of pastoral care at

Mississippi Baptist Medical Center in Jackson for more than ten years, has joined the staff of Northeast

Counseling Center in Jackson. In addition to individual, marriage, and family counseling, Stephenson is available for pulpit, supply, and interim pastoral services. He can be contacted at 6265 Pear Orchard Road, Suite 101-B, Jackson, MS 39211. Telephone: (601) 825-0993.

Stephenson

COLLEGE NEWS

The Mississippi College Office of Continuing Education will offer the LSAT Review Course on September 25, 30, and October 2 for the October 4 test date. The review will cost \$195 and includes two LSAT exams with answers and explanations for each section. The registration deadline is September 22. For more information or a registration form, contact (601) 925-3265 or cmoore@mc.edu.

The Office of Continuing Education at Mississippi College is offering a course to assist individuals who are preparing to take the GRE Admissions Test. The course offers 12 instructional hours of

review on September 9, 11, and 16. Registration deadline is September 4. The review cost is \$195. For a registration form or more information, contact (601) 925-3265 or cmoore@mc.edu.

Florida State football coach, Bobby Bowden, will be the featured speaker for Mississippi College's second annual Wild Game Dinner at Anderson Hall, Clinton, on September 29 at 7 p.m. Also speaking and cooking will be noted wild game chef Billy Joe Cross, a MC graduate. Tickets are \$100 each and \$150 per couple with proceeds going to the MC athletic department. For more information, call (601) 925-3341.

www.mbhs.org



Making preventive care affordable.

Making a difference.

When it comes to your health, an ounce of prevention can be worth so much more than a pound of cure - it can be lifesaving. That's why Baptist Health Systems is proud to offer clinically significant preventive screenings at an affordable price - only \$25. We think it can make a real difference in our community.



For more information or to schedule an appointment for the Every Day Heart Day screenings or the Protect & Detect Cancer Screenings, call 948-6262 or 1-800-948-6262.

Baptist
HEALTH SYSTEMS

The Spirit of Healthcare

1119 Mississippi Churches Can't Be Wrong.

More than 1100 churches throughout Mississippi put their faith in Wellington Associates for comprehensive insurance services including property, general, and specific liability, vehicle, workers compensation, and other coverages. Wellington guarantees a quality program, customized for your ministry, at the most competitive premium rates.

For references and more information, call Mike Brooks at 601-420-0174 or 1-800-442-0290.

Wellington Associates, Inc.

The solution - a 15 passenger mini-bus that meets Federal safety standards.



- Mini-Bus • 15 passengers (No CDL)
- 2/1 Seating • Center Aisle
- Low First Step • Raised Roof
- Longer Wheelbase • Dual Rear Wheels
- Steel Construction

THE VILLAGE VIEW



Dr. Bill Causey, Interm Executive Director

P.O. Box 27
Clinton, MS 39060-0027
(601) 922-2242

e-mail: bcv1@misnet.com

www.baptistchildrensvillage.com

Gifts of Honor and Memory

A portion of The Village View is allocated each month to a list of Gifts of Honor and Memory. Many groups and individuals elect to pay tribute to others through this sensitive, meaningful, and helpful medium. This feature is hopefully designed to further honor, with taste and respect, those who are and have been special to our special friends.

APRIL 1 - 30, 2003

MEMORIALS

Timothy Sullivan
Mr. & Mrs. Vernon
Haygood Sr.
Mrs. Frank Sumrall
Mrs. Joy B. Roberts
Mrs. Gladys Sumrall
Mr. & Mrs. J. V.
Parker Jr.
Mrs. Francis Sutton
Ms. Patsy Reeves
Eddie Switzer
Mrs. Vauncile Switzer
James Sykes
Mr. & Mrs. Gerald
Fulgham
Mr. & Mrs. John D.
Oswalt
Mrs. Dean Sylvester
The Loftin Family
Thomas M. Tann, Sr.
Mrs. Beulah Abel
Jewel Tapscott
Mr. Gerald M. Aven Jr.
Mrs. Cecil Tindle
Mr. & Mrs. E. L.
Bennett Jr.
Mrs. Patty Baynes Tindle
Mr. & Mrs. Pat
Ingram
Mr. & Mrs. Billy
Latham
Philene & Stuart Allen
Mrs. Annie G. Frazier
Mr. & Mrs. Byron
Kyle
Mr. & Mrs. Howard
Gilbert
Ashley Toler
Ms. Gail Kirkland
Ed & Doris Townley
Mr. & Mrs. David
Cotton Foster
Zama Tuggle
Ethel McKeithen
SSC - Temple BC,
Hattiesburg
Gary Vanlandingham
Mr. & Mrs. Byron Kyle
"Nanny" Verlyn Vaughan

Van Seales SSC,
Macedonia BC-Brookhaven
Mrs. Madge Viguerie
I. B. & Doris Faurot
Ms. Frances Vinson
Mr. Kirk Haskins
Miss Mary Edith Waggoner
Mrs. Wilma Walsh
Alden Wallace
Cathy & Woody Webb
Elton Walters
Mrs. Nettie T. Hays
Lavern Walters
Thirteenth Avenue
Pharmacy & Staff
Mr. & Mrs. Henry Warren
Mrs. Ruthie M.
Warren
Leonard Warren
Mrs. Ruthie M.
Warren
Mr. James Watkins
Mr. and Mrs. Charles
Dew
John W. Watt
The Defenbaugh
Family
Mack Watts
Mr. Mike Daughdrill
Billy Webb
Ms. LaDell Graham
Mr. Willard Wells
Dr. & Mrs. Jerry F.
Reed
Frances Westmoreland
Ms. Margaret Ashley
Mr. Howard Dale White
Mr. Harold G. Marx Sr.
Wilma Wilder
Mr. Jimmie Smithy
Mrs. Freida Williams
Mr. & Mrs. William
C. Rogers
Mrs. Willey (Mary Etta)
Williams
Ms. Brenda Helms
Archa & Max Jordan
Dr. & Mrs. Reggie H.
Broom
Mr. & Mrs. G. H.
English
Mr. & Mrs. Charles S.
Thomas

Matthew Williamson
Mrs. Annie G. Frazier
Mr. & Mrs. David
Miller
Augusta Emmett Wilson
Mr. & Mrs. Robert L.
Wilson
Cratis Wood
Mr. & Mrs. Gene
Crane
George F. Woodliff, III
Mr. Sam S. Thomas
Mrs. Peggy Woolridge
Dr. & Mrs. Jerry F.
Reed
Alvin Word, Jr.
Dr. & Mrs. Wilson E.
Moak
Mr. John Wright
Mr. & Mrs. Dan W.
Southerland
Helena Yates
Mrs. Rose M.
Faircloth

MAY 1 - 31, 2003
HONORS

Nan Bailey
Mr. & Mrs. Tracy B.
Bailey
Carolyn Baxter & Her
Helpers
Keenagers, Immanuel
BC-Vicksburg
Gwen Beesley
Mr. & Mrs. Tracy B.
Bailey
Donna Brock
Ms. Doris S. Brock
Olline Brower
Turkey Creek Baptist
Church
Mary C. Carter
Mrs. Juanita Bulimore
Mrs. Leta Carter
The John Abneys
Melissa Caughman
Cade, Abby & Bryce
Caughman
Cynthia Childress
Turkey Creek Baptist
Church
Rev. Johnny Collins
Charlie & Libby
Davis
Rev. Roy Dabbs & Oak
Grove BC
Mr. William B. Webb
Dr. Gerry Grant
Charlie & Libby Davis
Mrs. Annie Laurie Gunter
Dr. & Mrs. Linuel D.
Jayroe
Nonnie Hughes
Mrs. B. S. Hood
Mr. & Mrs. Richard
Jackson
Ms. Marilyn Mitchell
Mrs. Lee Audis Jayroe
Dr. & Mrs. Linuel D.
Jayroe
Mrs. Josephine Johnson
Mr. & Mrs. Gary
Fulton
Miss Mary Love Jones
Mr. Neil & Ms. Zekie
McKenzie
Mrs. Becky Manuel
Mrs. Juanita Bulimore
Mrs. Herman Nichols
Miss Jayne Woods
Dr. & Mrs. Shawn Parker
Mrs. Malcolm W.
Heard
Thomas & Mary Pierce
Mr. Sherrell
Sturdivant
Billy & Shirley Pruett
Mr. Sherrell
Sturdivant
Mr. Curtis & Mrs. Tommy
Lyn Rawson
Rev. Danny Young
Mrs. Mildred Redding
Mr. & Mrs. Bobby R.

Redding
Ronny Robinson
Mr. & Mrs. Allen W.
Clark II
Helen Sanders
Phillip & Era Lee Hilton
Bill & Carrie Sones
Mrs. Edna Sones
Mrs. Ruby Ware
Mrs. Marcus W. Ware
Rosalie Warren
David & Letha Warren
Mrs. Esther Welford
Mrs. Marcus W. Ware

MEMORIALS

Cleveland Ainsworth
Joe Joe & Miriam
Harris
Miss Billye Jean Ainsworth
Dr. & Mrs. Linuel D.
Jayroe
Minnie Allen
Twentieth Century
Club-Prentiss, MS
Mrs. Eva Dean Allman
Mr. & Mrs. Bob
Allman
Charles F. Alred
Ms. Janice Methvin
Mrs. Anna W.
Rounsaville & Family
Alta Armstrong
Mrs. Nancy Gomillion
Mrs. Ernestine Hinson
Armstrong
Dr. & Mrs. Larry
Hailey
Friends, FBC-Starkville
Mr. & Mrs. Kelton L.
Anderson
Mr. & Mrs. John
Breazeale
Mr. & Mrs. Jim Craig
Mrs. Geraldine
Fulgham
Dr. & Mrs. Robert
"Bo" Haynes
Tommy Lee Avants
Mr. & Mrs. Roger M.
Myrick
Mr. Randy Bader
Mrs. Kathleen P.
Dulaney
Hubert L. Baggett, Jr.
Mrs. Elizabeth Hale
Hill
Mrs. Barbara Anne Baker
Dr. & Mrs. Linuel D.
Jayroe
Mrs. Anna Mac Barron
Ms. Evelyn B.
Anderson
Mildred Bass
Mr. & Mrs. Phillip R.
Hilton
Willard Bass
Mr. Walter R. Barbee
Mrs. Bobbie M. Barbee
Adonis Beasley
Mr. H. D. Johnston
Bill Beckman
Mrs. Martha L. Strain
Shari Harveston Blackwell
Mr. & Mrs. Roger M.
Myrick
Mr. John Blakeney
Mr. & Mrs. Thomas
R. Woodward
Mr. Bobby Bobbitt
Mrs. Fannye Pollan
Mrs. Lillian Slater Booth
Mrs. Dorothy J.
Crocker
Mr. & Mrs. Dennis L.
McPhail
Mrs. Grace Allen Bowen
Dr. & Mrs. Wendell B.
Holmes
Mrs. Irene Bowers
Dorcas SSC, Bowmar
BC-Vicksburg
Skeets Bowie
Mr. & Mrs. Ronald E.
Carlyle

Mary Lee Boyd
Mrs. Amye Wiggs &
Family
John Ansel Brame
Ms. Judy Mozley
Mr. David Charles
Murphy
Mrs. Rosa W. Brame
Miss Rose Ann Nunn
Mrs. Sam A. Nunn
Ms. Patricia M. Nunn
Ms. Frances T. Stroud
Mr. & Mrs. Bob
Cherry
Gerie Weldon
J. D. Branscome
Mr. John E. Gray Jr.
Pauline Brewer
Mr. Jimmie Smithy
Robert A. Brewer
Mr. & Mrs. E. Wayne
Smith
Mrs. W. W. Brignac
Mrs. W. D. Hammons
Mrs. Mae Brown
Ms. Margaret B.
Phillips
Tracy Buford
Mrs. Dora Murray
Doris Bullock
Twentieth Century
Club-Prentiss
Elizabeth Byrd
Corky & Linda Tigner
Mrs. Fleta Cagle
Mr. Steve Cagle
Mag Cain
Concord Baptist
Church
Margaret Ann Cantrell
Bo & Linda Surber
J. W. "Bill" Carr
Mr. & Mrs. Ed
Springer
Terry Carter
Mr. & Mrs. Fred D.
Norsworthy
Christopher Casaus
Bobby, Jody & Leigh
Ann Bell
Mrs. Emily Chambers
Linuel D. Jayroe's
Men's SSC, MHBC
Dottie & Gerald
Buchanan
Mr. & Mrs. Hale
Singletary Jr.
Thomas R. Chisolm
Ms. Sarah W. Barrett
Anna Carol Clark
Mrs. Carolyn M. Nix
Chester Clark
Charlie & Libby
Davis
Shelton Cline
Ms. Connie Ellzey
Mr. Johnny Cobb
Mr. & Mrs. Charles C.
Green

Mrs. Marion Pittman
Cochran
Donna Carter and
Associates
Kathryn Bass Moody
SSC, FBC-Poplarville
Kathryn Moody SSC,
FBC-Poplarville
Joe Barefoot
Robert L. Bennett &
Elisabeth Shih
Mr. & Mrs. Darrell P.
Fuller
Eric & Leslie Gerber
Mr. & Mrs. Jesse M.
Guess
Ms. Ginger Jackson
Ms. Kaye Lynn
Johnson
Mr. & Mrs. Steven
Leighton
Ms. Pat S. McCleary
Mr. & Mrs. Herbert
Morris
Mrs. Wyndall Smith
Mr. & Mrs. Mack
Stewart, Chad & Melissa
Dr. & Mrs. W. F.
Stringer
Mr. & Mr. Robert D.
Smith
Billy Ray Cooper
Ms. Amy C. Beard
Mrs. Arwin Corder
Ms. Teri P. Manning
Mildred B. Crawford
Neil Crosby
Frances Dolan &
Family
Mr. & Mrs. Joe T.
Rives
Neville & Mary
Triplett
Mr. & Mrs. Bill
Richardson
Ms. Madel Stringer
Keith Crews
Mr. & Mrs. Troy L.
King
Tim Cupstid
Mr. & Mrs. James A.
Carpenter Jr.
Mrs. Dorothy (Dot) C.
Curan
Mr. & Mrs. Frank L.
Morgan
Miss Dorothy
Harrelson
Ms. Joan Harrelson
Dorcas SSC, FBC-
Starkville
Mr. Julius Dahlem
Mr. & Mrs. W. M.
McElroy
Elise Davidson
David & Letha Warren
James O. Davidson
Mrs. Norma Davidson
Jessie Davis

Bobby, Jody & Leigh
Ann Bell
Mrs. Jackie Dial
Linuel D. Jayroe's
Men's SSC, MHBC
George Dier, Sr.
Mr. & Mrs. Georg
Dier Jr. & Family
Ms. Camille Conerly
The A. M.
Hollingsworths
Mrs. Addie Kirkland
Mr. & Mrs. Robert R.
Waymire
Robert "Bob" Dugan
Mrs. Jeanette G.
Patterson
Mr. & Mrs. Gus Evans
Mrs. Esther Dunaway
Ms. Fay M. Donegan
Mr. Joe Durham
Dr. & Mrs. Joe Ivy
Gillespie
Judy Allen East
Mr. & Mrs. James C.
Brents Jr.
Mrs. Virginia Ellingburg
Rev. & Mrs. L. Gerald
Castilo
Jack Everett
Mr. & Mrs. Phillip R.
Hilton
Edna Fisher
Ms. Margaret Ann
Finnie
Mr. Pat Flaherty
Leroy, Sandra &
Morgan Peebles
Matt Forman
Mrs. Addie Kirkland
Darryl & Melissa
Temple
Mr. & Mrs. Robert R.
Waymire
Emma Fortenberry
Robert & Martha
Jones
Leone B. Fortenberry
Mr. & Mrs. Glen D.
Fortenberry
Ira D. Fowler
Mr. & Mrs. Jimmy
Jenkins
Mrs. Erlene W. Shook
Mr. Hilton Freeman
Ms. Camille Conerly
Mr. & Mrs. David M.
Dixon & Family
Skipper Fry
Grace SSC, Mt.
Pisgah BC-Enid
Mr. Dempsey Gattis
VEW SSC, Algoma BC
Mary Gardner
Rev. & Mrs. Vaughan
Gardner
Carl Bruce Garner
Mr. & Mrs. Gerald
Wigington

Aureola Boyd remembered

Aureola Boyd was born [illegible] and died [illegible]. She was a member of the [illegible] Church. She is survived by [illegible].

FAMILY BIBLE STUDY

Kingdom Qualities

Matthew 5:1-16

By Jon Daniels

The Sermon on the Mount is a summary of Jesus' ethical teachings, and is the standard for our lives as Christians.

The word kingdom is used some 162 times in the New Testament. Henry Blackaby's definition of "kingdom" is that it refers to "God's manifested reign in human affairs." It is a "present spiritual reality and a future physical reality." When we become a child of God through placing our faith in Christ alone for our salvation, we are able to experience the joy and fulfillment that belongs to those who experience God's reign in their lives.

It is a spiritual reality. As Christians, we see God's hand at work all around us. We understand and know that He

is moving and working in ways that those who are not saved are not able to comprehend.

It is also a future physical reality. It gives us great hope and encouragement to know that one day, Jesus will return and will establish His kingdom for all eternity. It is a day that all Christians look forward to with great anticipation.

We are blessed (vv. 3-12). God has blessed us in innumerable ways. As the hymn says, "Count your blessings, name them one by one." It would take a long time for us to truly do that as we consider all of God's blessings on our lives.

To understand what Jesus meant when He gave these verses known as the Beatitudes, one needs to understand what the word "blessed"



Daniels

truly means in this context. Though the word does carry the connotation of being happy or fortunate, Jesus had a deeper meaning. The Greek word makarios means that we are approved by God. It is the enviable state of those who are in God's Kingdom.

John MacArthur states, "To be blessed is not a superficial feeling of well-being based on circumstance, but a deep supernatural experience of contentedness based on the fact that one's life is right with God."

Who is the person who is blessed in this way? That one who is "poor in spirit," humbly recognizing their total dependence upon God; one who "mourns" over the sin that is in his/her life; one who is "gentle," meek and tenderhearted; one who "hungers and thirsts for righteousness," longing to be right with God; one who is "merciful"; one who is "pure in heart," living a life of holiness; one who is a "peacemaker,"

intimately acquainted with the Prince of Peace; one who is "persecuted for righteousness," going against the ways of this world. These are truly Kingdom people.

We are the salt of the earth (v. 13). Kingdom Christians influence those around them in radical ways, as salt influences nearly everything it touches. In fact, the pronoun "you" is emphatic, indicating that we are the ONLY salt of the earth.

What does it mean to be the salt of the earth? There are several conclusions that are valid interpretations. One is that salt is white and pure, leading us to conclude that our lives are to be lived in purity.

Another is that salt gives flavor to foods, and that believers keep the world from being a drab and tasteless place. Salt stings when placed in a wound, leading to the interpretation that we are to be used to prick the conscience of the world. Salt also creates thirst, meaning that we are to be used to create a

thirst for God in the lives of the lost.

How are you influencing your world? How is your life flavoring, or stinging, or creating a thirst in those around you?

We are the light of the world (vv. 14-16). The world in which we live is a dark place. We must let the light of Christ shine through our lives in every way we can. Both our lifestyles and our words must testify to the presence of the light of Jesus in our hearts.

Too often, we hide our light by not speaking up when we should, by going along with the crowd, or by letting sin dim the light in us. A Kingdom Christian will be diligently seeking any way possible to let the light of Christ be as bright as possible in his/her life. Through sharing Christ with a lost person, through seeking to do "good works" that will build others up - we will let our light shine and God will get the glory.

Daniels is pastor of First Church, Monticello.

EXPLORE THE BIBLE

Spiritual Partners

Philippians 1:3-18a

By Laura Russell

As you read the book of Philippians you might never guess that the author was writing from prison. Joy is the main theme of Paul's letter to the Philippians. I am sure that Paul would agree that he was not happy to be in jail, but that the secret of his joy was grounded in his relationship with Jesus Christ. Joy runs deeper and stronger than happiness. Joy is the quiet, confident assurance of God's love and work in our lives and that He will be there no matter what! While happiness depends on happenings, joy depends on Christ. None of Paul's circumstances contributed to his joy: He wrote from a jail cell, his work was under attack, and he was tired from his years of hard travel-

ing in the service of Jesus, but when compared to the life of Jesus, circumstances are incidental. Paul found real joy as he focused all of his attention and energy on knowing and obeying Christ. His focus was on his Savior, rather than his situation.

Find Partners (vv. 3-8). This letter was written to thank the Philippians for the gift they had sent Paul when he had a need, and to strengthen and encourage these believers in the faith. He wanted to tell them why he could be full of joy despite being in prison and about his upcoming trial. He also wanted to tell them that they were a source of joy when he prayed (v.4) and by helping Paul, they were helping the cause of Christ (v.5). The



Russell

Philippians wanted to be used by God for whatever task He had for them. They gave their financial support and practical help. They became partners with Paul. Likewise, as we help others through our prayers, hospitality and financial support, we become partners with them. By doing this, we also "share in the gospel" (v.5) or contribute in spreading God's Word.

Care About Partners (vv. 9-11). Most of the time, the best way to influence someone is to pray for them. Paul's prayer for the Philippians was that they would be unified (v.9). This unity and love was to result in a greater knowledge of Christ. He also prayed that these believers would "determine what is best" (v.10) or to have the ability to discern right and wrong, good and bad, vital and trivial. Paul encouraged the Philippians to agree with one another and work together, to care for and about each other, just as Paul cared for

them. As believers, we should contend against the common enemy, not against one another. When we are unified in love, when we care for each other, Christ's love is most abundant. Eph. 5:15-16 tells us "be very careful, then, how you live, not as unwise, but as wise, making the most of every opportunity..." Always keep before you the ideals of teamwork, consideration of others and unselfishness. As we grow in Christ's love, our hearts and minds must grow together. This is the "harvest of righteousness" Paul speaks about in verse 11.

Rejoice with Partners (vv. 15-18). Paul rejoiced with his Philippian partners that the gospel was being spread. Of course, Paul knew that some were preaching Christ thinking they could assume Paul's role because he was out of the way. He also knew that others were preaching Christ with the best heart in the world. One group was motivated by pure love, the other group motivated by greed. About this last group, Paul says that although their

motives were wrong, it didn't really matter because for whatever reason, when they opened their mouths, Jesus Christ was proclaimed. This just gave Paul one more reason to rejoice. Sometimes Christians serve for the wrong reasons. While God doesn't excuse people with wrong motives, He can use their message.

Jesus puts everything in a new perspective. Because of Jesus, we can have joy. There is no greater need in the world today than the need for joy. Chuck Swindoll writes: "Ours is a world of bad news and sad faces, of stooped shoulders and deep frowns. So it seems the most magnetic quality of a Christian is joy. Joy is the magnet that draws people to one another. Joy takes the grind out of life. A joyful person is a balm of healing to hurting hearts." This joy come from knowing Christ personally and depending on His strength rather than our own.

Russell is a member of First Church, McComb.

Evangelicals clashing over Ala. monument

Iraq projects delayed over safety issues

RICHMOND, Va. (BP) — Southern Baptist ministry projects in Iraq are being delayed for at least two weeks because of new concerns that remnants of Saddam Hussein's faction are planning to target humanitarian workers in the country.

The first four shipping containers of food packed by Southern Baptist churches in late Spring arrived in the country Aug. 21. Volunteer teams from Missouri and North Carolina were to begin arriving the weekend of Aug. 29 to begin distribution of the 46,000 boxes.

The decision to delay the arrival of volunteer teams was based on advice from the United Nations' NGO Coordinating Council, which manages the work of non-governmental relief and development groups in the country, a Baptist worker in Iraq said.

The Aug. 19 truck bomb attack on the United Nations offices in Baghdad marked the first time a non-military humanitarian operation had been targeted since Saddam Hussein's regime was overthrown in late March.

Bibliocipher

By Charles Marx
copyright 2003

NQD ZT PZGC ZT RZHS

TKGSA LKVRQFV UZL

TRZUU ZUTQ BSDKTR

LKVRQFV UZL: ZGA ZT

PZGCZT RZHS TKGSA

KG VRS UZL TRZUU OS

MFAYSA OC VRS

UZAWESL;

DQPZGT VLQ: VLSUHS

Clue: L = W

Have fun with cryptography and exercise your Bible knowledge. A King James Version Bible verse has been encoded by letter substitution. The same letter is substituted throughout the puzzle. Solve by trial and error. Answer to last week's puzzle: Hebrews 5:9

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (BP)—Evangelical leaders James Dobson and Pat Robertson came down on opposing sides of the Alabama Ten Commandments controversy Aug. 25, while a third evangelical, Richard Land, released a further elaboration of his position.

Speaking on his daily Focus on the Family radio program, Dobson said he supports Alabama Chief Justice Roy Moore and "strongly" disagrees with evangelicals who have criticized Moore's legal strategy.

Robertson and Land both said that while they believe Moore's Ten Commandments display is constitutional, they think he should have obeyed a federal court order and removed the monument. Robertson made his comments on the "Jay Sekulow Live!" radio program, while Land did so in a column posted on Baptist Press' website, <http://www.bpnews.net/bpcolumn.asp?ID=1095>.

The day's events highlight a divide on the issue among evangelicals.

"We're at a turning point, a pivotal point in the history of this country," said Dobson, who discussed the issue with Moore, former presidential candidate Alan Keyes and Focus on the Family President Don Hodel. "This is just not another issue.... There are times when you have to respond to a higher law."

Dobson encouraged listeners to go to Montgomery, Ala., where more than 100 of Moore's supporters are camped out in front of the state judicial building, hoping to stop the monument's removal. Moore's eight associate justices overruled him Aug. 21 and ordered the monument removed.

Dobson even mentioned Land by name, saying that Land is a "great friend and I agree with him on almost everything. I just think he's making a mistake here."



Moore

Land, noting that the issue "has sadly and sharply divided evangelical Christians," said the court order must be followed and the judicial system allowed to work.

"Do evangelical Christians really want to say that this United States government is no longer a legitimate government and that we are no longer obligated to obey its courts when we disagree with their rulings?" Land wrote. "If so, let us understand it for what it is. It is insurrection. I want to reform this government, not rebel against it as an illegitimate government beyond repair."

Land repeated his support for the public display of the Ten Commandments in public buildings and said he will "continue to do everything" he can "to encourage evangelical Christians to rise up and reform this government and its courts."

Christians must not "support defiance of the law by officials sworn to uphold the law," Land said. He then gave a list of hypothetical situations he said could occur if Moore's actions are followed elsewhere.

"Would we have supported the Florida Supreme Court in defying the U.S. Supreme Court's ruling and continuing with yet another recount effort [in the 2000 presiden-



Ten Commandments monument before removal

tial election] while the Electoral College was thrown into crisis by having perhaps two sets of electors from Florida and no agreed upon president?" Land asked.

"If the U.S. Supreme Court overturned

Roe v. Wade, would we support the California State Supreme Court defying the U.S. Supreme Court and saying that since their state constitution explicitly guarantees the right to privacy, they planned to defy the federal government and continue to permit abortion on demand in California?"

Sekulow, chief counsel of the American Center for Law and Justice, has repeatedly said that while he supports the display of the Ten Commandments in public settings, he believes Moore's lawyers should have requested a stay weeks ago in order to keep the monument in place. In a previous column, Land said he, too, would have taken a different strategy. Moore's lawyers requested a stay following the deadline and were denied.

Robertson, founder and chairman of the Christian Broadcasting Network, said that while there is "no question" that the monument is constitutional, "we are people who respect the rule of law. This tactic was designed to

bring about a confrontation which was not necessary," Robertson said. " ... Had they requested a stay, they would have gotten an automatic stay, then they would have had the chance to bring a legitimate appeal before the United State Supreme Court and it would have taken some time. In that, they could have framed an argument that might well have won."

The Supreme Court and the U.S. House of Representatives both have Ten Commandments displays in their chambers, Robertson said.

If Moore had asked the Supreme Court, "How is what I've done in Alabama any different from what you do in your court?" then the Supreme Court would have had to deal with it," Robertson said.

Speaking to Sekulow, Robertson said that Moore's lawyers have "left those of us like you and me who want the commandments up in public places in a quandary. I regret that this has been done. But I think people like Jim Dobson and others need to understand how judicial processes work. It's just a question not of principle but of tactics. The tactics used by Judge Moore have just not been well advised in my opinion."

Moore said that federal justice Myron Thompson, who ordered the monument removed, "has absolutely no authority, power or jurisdiction in this area, and it's that simple. He is coming down as an interior decorator of our courts."

Dobson said he is concerned that the assault by judges on the Ten Commandments monument is "part of a larger plan to eliminate every vestige of faith or religion or reverence for God from the public square. And that's where this is headed. If we don't stop it here, they're going to have to sand blast half the buildings in Washington."

While saying he respects Land

and Sekulow, Dobson said he wonders "if Dr. Land and Jay Sekulow are supportive of the American Revolution, where we rebelled against the British tyranny."

Land, in his column, said he thinks America's forefathers "were right [for rebelling] and I applaud my ancestors for supporting that effort. I do not believe that rebellion is always wrong, but it should not take place until all legal redress of grievances has been exhausted."

Land also addressed those who argue that slavery would not have been abolished by following the rule of law.

"On the slavery issue, the U.S. Supreme Court did rule in the 1857 Dred Scott decision that slaves were property, not human beings, and thus had no rights," Land wrote. "The response of the American people three years later was to elect a new president, Abraham Lincoln, who campaigned on a platform of no extension, and the eventual abolition, of slavery. So, America did obey the rule of law, used the ballot box and eliminated slavery."

Land also addressed those who argue that slavery would not have been abolished by following the rule of law.

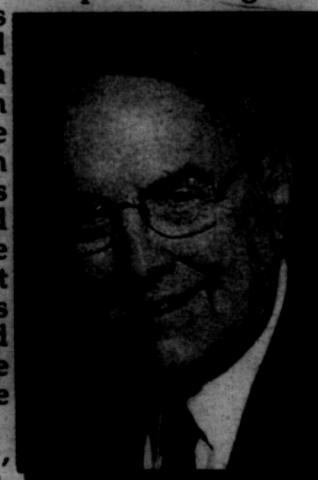
On the slavery issue, the U.S. Supreme Court did rule in the 1857 Dred Scott decision that slaves were property, not human beings, and thus had no rights," Land wrote. "The response of the American people three years later was to elect a new president, Abraham Lincoln, who campaigned on a platform of no extension, and the eventual abolition, of slavery. So, America did obey the rule of law, used the ballot box and eliminated slavery."



Land



Sekulow



Dobson